



# Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

## *Delaware County, PA*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

### BACKGROUND

EPA has selected Delaware County for a Brownfields Pilot. The county's riverfront is bound by the Pennsylvania/Delaware state line to the south, the Delaware River to the east, Interstate 95 to the west, and the City of Philadelphia to the north. The area includes the City of Chester, Chester Township, Eddystone Borough, Lower Chichester Township, Marcus Hook Borough, Ticum Township, and Trainer Borough, which combined have a population of 62,618.

The area, located on major land and water transportation routes, experienced steady economic growth in its shipbuilding, manufacturing, and textile industries through the 1950s. The area then began an economic decline, as factories were abandoned and residents began to leave in search of better opportunities elsewhere. However, with the existing infrastructure and workforce, as well as several incentive programs put in place to revitalize the distressed communities, the area is positioned for economic redevelopment.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



Delaware County,  
Pennsylvania

Date of Announcement:  
June 1999

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets up to three sites within the Delaware County Riverfront Area, located south of Philadelphia on the Delaware River.

#### Contacts:

Delaware County  
Redevelopment Authority  
(610) 566-2225

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 3  
(215) 814-3129

Visit the EPA Region 3 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/brownfld/hmpage1.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

## OBJECTIVES

Brownfields redevelopment is a key component of returning economic vitality and opportunity to these distressed communities in Delaware County. The Pilot's efforts will be coordinated with the area's comprehensive resources management plan and economic development strategy implementation. A cornerstone of the county's and Pilot's brownfields efforts is the active inclusion of all interested groups and individuals throughout the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment process.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Reviewing all inventoried brownfields sites, determining ownership, and characterizing suspected contamination, if known;
- Selecting up to three sites to be assessed;
- Developing community-based cleanup plans;
- Identifying and removing barriers to redevelopment; and
- Working with community stakeholders to share information on the selection, assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of the three targeted sites.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.